GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:177
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2015
Replacement of Fleet
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the average life span of different aircrafts of the Air India fleet and major Global Airlines at present;

(b) the norms laid down by the Aviation Regulatory Authority in India for determining the lifespan of an aircraft;

(c) whether the Government proposes to replace the ageing/outdated aircraft which have either completed or on the verge of reaching useful service life; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
(Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati)

(a) to (d) A statement has been laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 177 for 10.12.2015 regarding "Replacement of Fleet".

(a) The number of various types of different aircrafts of the fleet of Air India and their average lifespan as on 07.12.2015 may kindly be seen at annexure. Information on fleet life span of major global airlines is not maintained by the Government.

(b) to (d) There is no particular period specified for which the aircraft could be used. Aircraft is considered airworthy provided the maintenance is as per approved schedule/program and all mandatory modifications stipulated by the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) as well as the regulatory authorities of the aircraft manufacturing countries. The economic design goal for every type of aircraft is decided by the manufacturers/regulatory authorities of the State of manufacturers. DGCA allows any aircraft to fly as long as it is airworthy, determined by the validity of Airworthiness Certificate and Continued Airworthiness status. Operating airlines take decision for replacement of aging/ outdated aircraft depending upon the airworthiness of their aircraft. The condition for validity of Certificate of Airworthiness is provided in DGCA regulation CAR Section-2, Series "F", Part- III, Para- 4.